

# Office of National Drug Control Policy

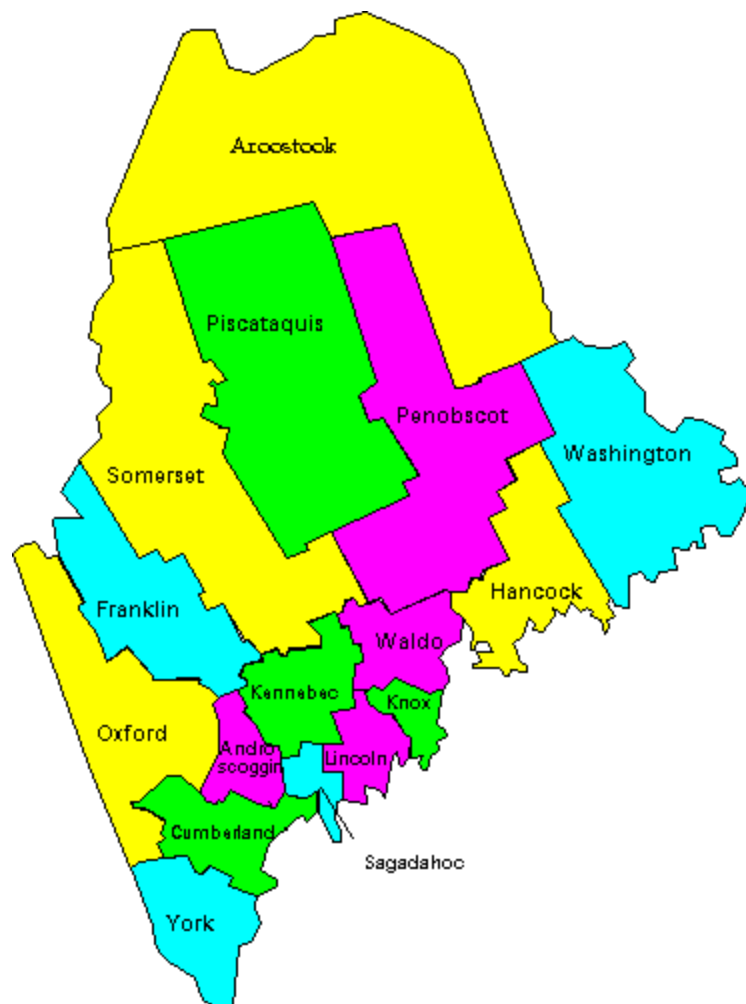
## Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

### State of Maine

#### Profile of Drug Indicators

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ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile by using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare States or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

## **Maine**

The following profile contains information on demographics, political figures, programs, crime, drug use, drug trafficking, and enforcement statistics.

### **Demographics<sup>1</sup>**

- Population: 1,274,923 (2000 Census); 1,227,928 (1990 Census)
- Race/Ethnicity (1990 Census): 98% white; 0.4% African American; 0.5% American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut; 0.5% Asian/Pacific Islander; 0.1% other race; 0.6% Hispanic

### **Politics<sup>2</sup>**

- Governor: Angus S. King, Jr.
- Attorney General: Andrew Ketterer
- Secretary of State: Dan A. Gwadosky
- U.S. Senate: Olympia Snowe (R); Susan Collins (R)
- U.S. Representatives: Thomas H. Allen; John Elias Baldacci

### **Programs/Initiatives**

- FY 2000 Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantee awarded by ONDCP in conjunction with Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP):<sup>3</sup>
  - \$100,000 to Community Asset Builders of York
- Executive Office of Weed and Seed (EOWS)<sup>4</sup>
  - Midcoast (Sagadahoc): This area received its first Weed and Seed grant in 1996. The Target Area of this Weed and Seed site is the county of Sagadahoc. According to the 1990 Census, this area's population totaled 33,535. This area is a leader in community policing efforts throughout the State of Maine. One of the main efforts of this Weed and Seed site is to target properties that have a high incidence of complaints/arrests that appear to be drug-related.
  - There are additional Weed and Seed sites in Androscoggin County and Augusta.
- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)<sup>5</sup>

The New England HIDTA was designated in 1999 and is responsible for numerous counties in 6 states including Cumberland County of Maine. This HIDTA was designated in part because of the high purity heroin found throughout New England and the criminal groups trafficking heroin and crack from New York to New England. The primary mission of this HIDTA is to target, investigate and prosecute violent criminal offenders, especially those from NY, responsible for the distribution of high purity heroin, cocaine, and crack.
- Drug Court Program Office<sup>6</sup>
  - As of March 31, 2000, there was one drug court operating in Maine. This court, a Tribal drug court in Old Town, has been operating for less than two years.
  - There are also three drug courts being planned in Maine. One will be in Portland, Cumberland County, another will be in Princeton/Passamaquoddy (Tribal), and the third is planned to be in Alfred, York County (Tribal).

### Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- During 1999, crime in Maine decreased 5.5%. From 1997 to 1999, crime in Maine has decreased 15.9%.<sup>7</sup>
- There were 4,639 arrests in 1998 for drug abuse violations in Maine.<sup>8</sup>

#### Number of Arrests, Maine, 1997-98

Offense	1997	1998	% Change
Murder	12	19	58.3
Forcible rape	81	72	-11.1
Robbery	179	146	-18.4
Aggravated assault	513	651	26.9
Burglary	1,852	1,682	-9.2
Larceny-theft	6,922	6,436	-7.0
Motor vehicle theft	533	462	-13.3
Arson	144	76	-47.2
Drug abuse violations	4,196	4,639	10.6
Driving under the influence	7,510	8,007	6.6
Liquor law violations	2,788	3,164	13.5

- 81.4% of all adult drug arrests and 87.5% of all juvenile drug arrests in 1998 involved possession violations. 2,657 of the adults arrested in Maine in 1998 were arrested for marijuana possession.<sup>9</sup>

#### Number of Possession Arrests, Maine, 1998

Drug Type	Under 18	Adult
Opium, cocaine and derivatives	8	208
Marijuana	501	2,657
Synthetic narcotics	17	98
Other dangerous non-narcotics	77	253
<b>Total possession arrests</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>3,216</b>

- In 1998, there were 86 juvenile arrests for sale/manufacturing of drugs.<sup>10</sup>

#### Number of Sale/Manufacturing Arrests, Maine, 1998

Drug Type	Under 18	Adult
Opium, cocaine and derivatives	3	203
Marijuana	60	345
Synthetic narcotics	3	49
Other dangerous non-narcotics	20	137
<b>Total sale/manufacturing arrests</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>734</b>

- In a survey conducted of Maine's law enforcement officials and prosecutors, 78.13% reported that they believe illicit drug use is getting worse in their jurisdictions.<sup>11</sup>

### Law Enforcement/Prosecutor Opinions Regarding Certain Crime Situations

Type of Crime	Getting Worse	Staying Same	Improving
Illicit Drug Dealing	62.50%	34.38%	3.13%
Illicit Drug Use	78.13%	15.63%	6.25%
Juvenile Crime	78.13%	18.75%	3.13%
Juvenile Violence	65.63%	28.13%	6.25%
Violence in General	28.13%	59.38%	12.50%

### Drugs

- Remote rural communities make up most of Maine towns. These rural areas are ideal for the undetected manufacture, cultivation, and transportation of illicit drugs. Also, Maine has approximately 3,500 miles of coastline with numerous deep-water harbors and more than 2,000 coastal islands. In addition to this, Maine has a common border with Canada that runs for 591 miles and has numerous unguarded border crossings. All of these factors contribute to the drug problem in this state.<sup>12</sup>
- Marijuana is readily available in Maine. In November 1999, voters in Maine passed a referendum approving the use of marijuana for medical purposes. Under this legislation, marijuana can be possessed and used for certain medical conditions when doctors advise patients that the drug might benefit them. The list of qualifying medical conditions includes the following: loss of appetite from AIDS or cancer treatments, glaucoma, and seizures or muscle spasms from chronic diseases.<sup>13</sup>
- Cocaine, crack cocaine, and heroin are all readily available throughout Maine.<sup>14</sup>

### Juveniles<sup>15</sup>

- 36.1% of male high school students surveyed in Maine in 1999 reported being current users of marijuana.

### Percent of High School Students Reporting Drug Use, Maine, 1999

Drug Type and Use	Female	Male	Total
Current Marijuana Use	26.4	36.1	30.9
Lifetime Cocaine Use	6.5	10.5	8.4
Current Cocaine Use	2.4	5.4	3.8
Lifetime Inhalant Use	14.3	17.9	16.0
Current Inhalant Use	3.6	7.8	5.6
Lifetime Heroin Use	2.5	5.9	4.2
Lifetime Methamphetamine Use	8.2	11.8	9.9
Lifetime Illegal Steroid Use	4.5	7.9	6.1
Lifetime Injecting Illegal Drug Use	2.2	4.6	3.3
Tried Marijuana Before Age 13	8.7	17.6	12.9

### Trafficking and Seizures<sup>16</sup>

- During 1999, there were a total of 9,426 cultivated marijuana plants eradicated in Maine under the DEA's Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program.

#### Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, Maine, 1999

<u>Outdoor Operations</u>		<u>Indoor Operations</u>		<b>Total Plants Eradicated</b>
<b>Plots Eradicated</b>	<b>Cultivated Plants Eradicated</b>	<b>Grows Seized</b>	<b>Plants Eradicated</b>	
249	9,216	10	210	9,426

#### Enforcement

- As of October 1999, there were 2,804 full-time law enforcement employees in Maine.<sup>17</sup>

#### Full-time Law Enforcement Employees, Maine, 1999

<u>Officers</u>		<u>Civilians</u>		<b>Total Employees</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	
2,016	122	301	365	2,804

- Northeast New England HIDTA Task Force: This Task Force, located in Portland, Maine, targets criminal groups trafficking heroin and cocaine.<sup>18</sup>
- Maine Drug Enforcement Agency (MDEA)<sup>19</sup>  
This Department of Public Safety bureau was created in 1987. The MDEA is a multi-jurisdictional task force that maintains offices in Augusta, Bangor, Houlton, Lewiston, Lyman, and Portland.

#### Courts<sup>20</sup>

- During FY99, 29.8% of the total Federal convictions in Maine were for drug offenses. The majority of these offenses (43.2%) involved powder cocaine. The rest of the cases involved marijuana (35.1%), crack cocaine (10.8%), heroin (5.4%), and methamphetamine (5.4%).

#### Corrections

- At advance yearend 1999, there were 1,716 prisoners under the jurisdiction of State or Federal correctional authorities in Maine.<sup>21</sup>
- Maine Correctional Facilities (Adult):<sup>22</sup>
  - Maine State Prison, Thomastown: This prison for males has a capacity of 438. The Substance Abuse Department found within this facility provides the following services: individual counseling; group counseling; education; and sponsorship.
  - Maine Correctional Institution-Warren, Thomastown: This 100-bed maximum-security facility had a population of 90 inmates in August of 1999.
  - Bolduc Correctional Facility, Thomastown: This facility, which has a capacity of 175, offers substance abuse counseling as well as self-help programs to its inmates.
  - Maine Correctional Center, South Windham: As of September 1999, this facility had a population of 495 males and 27 females.
  - Charleston Correctional Facility, Charleston: This minimum-security facility housed 129 males and 30 females at one point in 1999.

- Downeast Correctional Facility, Machiasport: The November 1999 population of this facility was 148 adult males.
- Maine Juvenile Facilities:<sup>23</sup>
  - Maine Youth Center, South Portland: This facility, which houses both males and females, is Maine's only juvenile facility. In September of 1999, the population at this facility was 193 males and 18 females.
  - Northern Maine Juvenile Detention Facility, Charleston: This facility, which was constructed in 1996, is the primary facility for the detention of juvenile offenders accused of committing juvenile offenses pending court action. This facility opened in 1998 and has a capacity to house 40 juveniles (male and female) between the ages of 11 and 18.
- From the beginning of 1999 to the end of 1999, the number of adults on probation increased 8.2%. The number of adults on probation at the end of the year totaled 7,524.<sup>24</sup>
- The number of adults on parole during this time decreased 6.1%. There were 33 adults on parole in Maine at the end of 1999.<sup>25</sup>

### **Treatment<sup>26</sup>**

- On October 31, 1998, there were 8,577 people receiving drug/alcohol treatment in Maine.
- 50.2% of all of the clients receiving treatment were being treated for alcohol and drug abuse, while 13.9% were being treated for drug abuse only, and 35.9% were being treated for alcohol abuse only.

### **Sources**

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau Web site: <http://www.census.gov>

<sup>2</sup> State of Maine Web site: <http://www.state.me.us>

<sup>3</sup> Drug-Free Communities Web site, Maine section: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/dfcs/states/me.html>

<sup>4</sup> Weed and Seed Web site: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/eows/neighborhoods.htm>

<sup>5</sup> High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Web site: <http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/enforce/hidta.html>

<sup>6</sup> OJP Drug Court Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance Project, American University: *Summary of Drug Court Activity by State and County*, March 31, 2000

<sup>7</sup> Maine Department of Public Safety: <http://www.state.me.us/dps/Docs/Crime99.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> FBI, *Crime in the United States: Uniform Crime Reports, 1998*, October 1999: <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/98cius>

<sup>9</sup> Maine Department of Public Safety, *Crime in Maine 1998*: <http://www.state.me.us/dps/Docs/CIM1998.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> Maine Department of Public Safety, *Maine Drug Control, Violence Prevention and System Improvement Strategy 1997-1999*

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> On-line News Article, November 4, 1999

<sup>14</sup> Maine Department of Public Safety, *Maine Drug Control, Violence Prevention and System Improvement Strategy 1997-1999*

<sup>15</sup> MMWR, *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance-United States, 1999*, June 2000

<sup>16</sup> Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics, 1999*: <http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/>

<sup>17</sup> FBI, *Crime in the United States, 1999*, October 2000: <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr.htm>

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- <sup>18</sup> High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Web site:  
<http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/enforce/hidta.html>
- <sup>19</sup> Maine Department of Public Safety, MDEA Web site: <http://janus.state.me.us/dps/Mdea/homepage.htm>
- <sup>20</sup> U.S. Sentencing Commission, FY 1999 Federal Statistics: <http://www.ussc.gov/judpack/1999/me99.pdf>
- <sup>21</sup> Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Prisoners in 1999*, August 2000:  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/p99.htm>
- <sup>22</sup> Maine Department of Corrections Web site: <http://janus.state.me.us/corrections/>
- <sup>23</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>24</sup> Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Probation and Parole in 1999*, July 2000:  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/pp99pr.pdf>
- <sup>25</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>26</sup> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *Uniform Facility Data Set, 1998, 2000*

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